

# Legislative Reference Service

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Thru 2/10/05 - HOUSE  
Thru 2/09/05 - SENATE

NO. 2

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

**H-5226 ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD PROGRAM** (Lewiss & Others) This act would establish a low interest fund available to property owners for reduction of lead hazards. Corporations

**H-5235 LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION** (Lewiss & Others) This act would except from certain lead hazard mitigation requirements the owners of rental property who rent units for fewer than 14 weeks per year or who rent units that are not winterized. Corporations

**H-5305 WATER SPRINKLERS** (Ginaitt & Others) This act would allow water users to tie sprinkler systems or heads into water distribution piping in existing structures. Corporations

**H-5383 LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION** (Slater & Others) This act would appropriate \$2,000,000 for the implementation of the Lead Hazard Mitigation Act. Finance

**H-5410 FIRE SAFETY CODE** (Shanley & Others) This act would add barns to the fire safety code, and would exempt barns comprising a total area of less than 50,000 square feet from the provisions. Corporations

**H-5467 STREET ADDRESS SIGN REQUIREMENTS** (Petrarca & Others) This act would require all commercial property and residential property owners, with more than 10 units, to prominently post signs with the street number and name of the location. Violators would be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000. Corporations

**S-197 STREET ADDRESS SIGN REQUIREMENTS** (Tassoni & Others) This act would require all commercial property and residential property owners, with more than 10 units, to prominently post signs with the street number and name of the location. Violators would be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-257 STATE BUILDING CODE** (McCaffrey) This act would provide that state building code's requirement for flood resistant construction for new construction would apply if improvements made within a 6-month period when the cost is in excess of a 50% of the physical value of the building. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-310 LEAD POISONING** (Levesque) This act would permit the Department of Health, by regulation, to determine that prior training for licensure of environmental lead inspectors and contractors has significantly changed rendering prior training inadequate and/or obsolete. Health & Human Services

**S-365 MECHANICAL TRADES** (Breene) This act would remove enforcement powers from the members of the mechanical board. Labor

## **EDUCATION & SCHOOLS**

**H-5247 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT STUDENTS** (Diaz & Others) This act would require school districts to provide limited English proficient students with instruction, programs and services equal to those provided to their English dominant peers. H.E.W.

**H-5251 PRIVATE SCHOOLS** (Picard) This act would permit students who attend a private school to participate as a member of a public school team if their private school does not field a team in that sport. H.E.W.

**H-5265 VIDEO LOTTERY RECEIPTS** (Moffitt & Others) This act would require 1% of video lottery terminal receipts to be paid to the permanent school fund annually. Finance

**H-5278 SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS** (Savage & Others) This act would provide that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Health would incorporate into their policies, rules and regulations pertaining to school health programs a procedure for addressing an incidence of hypoglycemia resulting in unconsciousness or seizure, in order to provide for the health and safety of any child who has been medically identified as having diabetes. H.E.W.

**H-5323 SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS** (Jacquard & Others) This act would require certain schools to employ speech language pathologists, and would provide that any licensed speech language pathologist who has met the requirements and acquired a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and who is employed by a school district, would be entitled to receive an annual salary supplement of \$3,500 in addition to any other compensation to which the employee may be entitled. H.E.W.

**H-5324 SCHOOL BUSES** (Jacquard & Others) This act would require that effective August 1, 2005, all school buses purchased for use in the state be equipped with seat belt assemblies for each passenger and operator seat, and would further require mandatory safety belt use by the school bus operator and each passenger. H.E.W.

**H-5351 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL** (Dennigan & Others) This act would require that the Director of the Department of Transportation spend \$2,000,000 of federal highway construction funds on improving pedestrian routes and roads to our schools. H.E.W.

**H-5352 SPECIFIED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS** (Dennigan & Others) This is a house resolution requesting the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the feasibility of specified transportation systems. H.E.W.

**H-5353 HEALTHY WEIGHT PILOT PROGRAM** (Dennigan & Others) This act would establish a pilot program to encourage physical exercise and promote healthy weight levels in children. H.E.W.

**H-5354 HEALTH EDUCATION** (Dennigan & Others) This act would expand the areas of instruction in health and physical education, for children in grades kindergarten through 12 who attend public schools, to include instruction in human development and sexuality. H.E.W.

**H-5372 CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE (COZ) FAMILY CENTER FUND** (Moran & Others) This act would establish a child opportunity zone (COZ) family center fund and appropriate \$1,000,000 for the development of existing or new COZ family centers. Finance

**H-5375 SPECIAL EDUCATION** (Melo & Others) This resolution would support a cap of \$20,000 on the cost of educating each individual special education student at the local level. Finance

**H-5394 CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE (COZ) FAMILY CENTER FUND** (Lewiss & Others) This act would establish a Child Opportunity Zone (COZ) Family Center Fund and appropriate \$1,000,000 for the development of existing or new COZ family centers. Finance

**H-5460 FUNDRAISING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (Ucci & Moran) This act would provide that the prohibitions against commercial activity and fundraising in schools would not prohibit the imposition of a reasonable fee in connection with off-campus field trips sponsored by the school, school district or local parent-teacher association. H.E.W.

**S-169 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE** (Pichardo & Others) This act would require that children attend school until 17 years of age. Education

**S-172 STATE EDUCATIONAL MANDATES** (Blais & Raptakis) This act would require that educational mandates be fully funded or else unenforceable. Finance

**S-176 SCHOOL AID** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide a bonus in state aid to local education for the top ten regional school districts in the state which achieve and attain above average standards pursuant to the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001". Finance

**S-177 SCHOOL AID** (Fogarty & Others) This act would provide a bonus in state aid to local education for the top ten regional school districts in the state which achieve and attain above average standards pursuant to the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001". Finance

**S-181 KINDERGARTEN** (Lanzi & Others) This act would establish a kindergarten plus incentive fund. Finance

**S-228 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES: RESIDENCY** (Blais & Others) This act would permit all public school department employees to reside outside of the city/town of employment. Commerce, Housing and Municipal Government

**S-269 SCHOOL BUSES** (Breene & Others) This act would require that all school buses be equipped with an epinephrine pen, and, further, that all school bus drivers and monitors be trained to use the equipment in the event of a severe allergic reaction by a passenger. Health & Human Services

**S-300 STUDENT VISION EXAMINATIONS** (Issa & Others) This act would require the Department of Health to establish a school vision-testing program for children ages 3 to 6 who are entering a publicly funded pre-kindergarten or kindergarten program for the first time. Education

**S-323 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would require that funding for charter public schools be approved by the voters of each local district at either a regularly scheduled financial town meeting or budget meeting. Finance

**S-325 CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE (COZ) FAMILY CENTER FUND** (Gibbs & Others) This act would establish a child opportunity zone (COZ) family center fund and appropriate \$650,000 for the development of existing or new COZ family centers. Finance

### **ELECTIONS**

**H-5230 LISTS OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS** (Savage & Others) This act would require the Board of Elections to prepare a form of affidavit to be signed at the closing of a sale of residential real estate by the owners stating whether or not they intend to abandon the address as his/her voting domicile. Corporations

**S-218 REGISTRATION OF VOTERS** (Raptakis & Others) This act would reduce the waiting period required for disaffiliation with a political party from 90 days to 29 days. Judiciary

### **ENVIRONMENT**

**H-5407 TIPPING FEES** (Handy & Others) This act would require the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation to initiate a recommendation to change the tipping fees schedule of the Central Landfill. Corporations

**S-284 DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE** (Polisena) This act would require any entity engaged in the business of collecting and disposing solid waste, which deposits the waste at the central landfill, to certify in writing every 30 days that such waste was not generated or collected outside the territorial limits of Rhode Island, setting forth the date and time of each deposit within the 30-day period. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-288 RUBBISH AND REFUSE** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would require vehicles transporting rubbish or refuse on local roads to be securely fastened and covered so as to prevent their contents from falling on to the road. This act would further clarify the law enforcement officers empowered to enforce this section. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-302        PESTICIDES** (Perry & Others) This act would allow municipalities to restrict the use of pesticides used for the cosmetic care of lawn and turf. Environment & Agriculture

**S-304        SEAWEED** (Paiva-Weed & Others) This act would provide that seaweed collected by a municipality and removed from a state beach would be deemed "yard waste" for purposes of receipt by the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation. Environment & Agriculture

**S-320        TIPPING FEES** (Polisena) This act would require the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation to initiate a recommendation to change the tipping fees schedule of the Central Landfill. Finance

### **FINANCE & TAXATION**

**H-5252       SCHOOL HOUSING PROJECT COSTS** (McHugh & Others) This act would provide that for school housing projects approved after June 30, 2003, interest payments may be included for communities with a stand alone investment grade rating of at least A as established by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. H.E.W.

**H-5292       TAX SALES** (SanBento & Others) This act would amend certain provisions relative to tax sales. Finance

**H-5374       APPEALS OF ASSESSED VALUES** (Moran & Others) This act would require taxpayers who appeal their property tax assessed values to pay their taxes while the appeal is pending. In addition, it would allow successful tax appellants to be reimbursed their tax overpayments with 8% interest. Finance

**H-5398       PROPERTY EXEMPT** (Flaherty & Others) This act would exempt from taxation dwelling houses and land owned or held in trust by or for any religious organization in this state in an amount not to exceed \$400,000. Finance

**H-5406       NOTICE OF ASSESSORS' MEETINGS** (Mumford & Others) This act would require a statewide advertisement of the assessors' meetings for each and every city/town. The cost would be divided equally among the municipalities. Corporations

**H-5441       RELIEF FROM ASSESSMENT** (Flaherty & Others) This act would allow taxpayers 6 years to contest a property tax assessment instead of 90 days. Judiciary

**H-5476 FREEZE ON TAXES FOR ELDERLY** (Trillo & Others) This act would allow cities/towns to freeze valuation of real property of single or married persons 65 years or older who have taxable income of 350% of the poverty level or less, or persons who are totally disabled. Finance

**H-5486 UNFUNDED PENSION LIABILITY** (Lima & Others) This act would require every city/town to set aside 2% of its operating budget to help offset its unfunded pension liability. Finance

**S-207 FUEL TAXES** (Fogarty & Other) This resolution would respectfully request that the Governor of the State of Rhode Island exempt Rhode Island's cities and towns from paying all fuel taxes. Finance

**S-317 MOTOR FUEL TAX** (Damiani & Others) This act would exempt municipalities from the motor fuel tax for vehicles used in the operation of their local government. Finance

### **HOUSING**

**H-5289 HOUSING RESOURCES ACT OF 1998** (Slater & Others) This act would give the Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission the power to administer the supportive services program which aids in the prevention of homelessness, and would appropriate \$350,000 in fiscal year 2005-2006 to carry out this provision of this act. Finance

**H-5358 AFFORDABLE HOUSING** (Dennigan & Others) This act would establish a community development corporation fund in order to supplement funding for community based nonprofit corporations whose purpose is to provide affordable housing. Corporations

**H-5385 HOMELESSNESS** (Slater & Others) This act would create a program designed to move homeless individuals and families from shelters to rental housing. The program would be administered by the Office of Homelessness and Emergency Assistance within the Housing Resources Commission. Finance

**S-196 HOUSING RESOURCES COMMISSION** (Gibbs & Others) This act would amend the Housing Resource Commission Act by providing federal and state initiatives for energy efficient improvement to property. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-204 HOUSING RESOURCES ACT OF 1998** (Pichardo & Others) This act would give the Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission the power to administer the supportive services program which aids in the prevention of homelessness, and would appropriate \$350,000 in fiscal year 2005-2006 to carry out this provision of this act. Finance

**S-292      LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING** (Blais & Others) This act would require that year-round mobile homes be included in year-round housing units, and rented year-round mobile homes be included in year-round rental housing units for purposes of determining the need for low and moderate income housing units. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

## **LABOR RELATIONS**

**H-5313      MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' ARBITRATION** (Lally) This act would make changes to the municipal employees' arbitration law. Specifically, it creates factors to be considered by the Arbitration Board in resolving contract negotiations. In addition, it would allow the superior court to award attorneys' fees to the successful party in an appeal of an arbitration panel decision. Labor

**H-5423      COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT** (Lally & Others) This act would mandate that, if there is a conflict between a collective bargaining agreement involving a public sector employer and a public sector employee organization and the terms of a municipal charter or ordinance, the conflict be resolved in favor of the collective bargaining agreement. Labor

**H-5424      UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES** (Lally & SanBento) This act would broaden the jurisdiction of the Labor Relations Board to consider and address unfair labor practices that have also been filed as grievances under a collective bargaining agreement. Labor

**H-5427      LABOR ARBITRATION** (Handy & Others) This act would limit the grounds upon which a labor arbitration award can be vacated. Labor

**S-359      ARBITRATION OF LABOR CONTROVERSIES** (McBurney) This act would prohibit vacating an arbitrator's award due to conflict with managerial duties, statute or statutory authority. Labor

**S-361      UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES** (McBurney) This act would further establish the Labor Relations Board's ability to prevent unfair labor practices notwithstanding the election of remedies doctrine or remedies in contracts including grievance procedures or arbitrations. Labor

**S-366      HEALTH CARE BENEFIT PROVIDERS** (Breene & Gibbs) This act would prohibit any collective bargaining agreement that requires an employer to have a specific provider for a health care plan when covering groups of state employees, public school teachers, or employees of a city/town. Labor



## **LIQUOR CONTROL & LICENSES**

**H-5229 SUNDAY SALES** (Kilmartin & Others) This act would repeal the prohibition on Sunday business for automobile dealers. Corporations

**H-5231 CLASS N LICENSE** (Gallison & Others) This act would repeal the Class N nightclub license which permits the admission of persons under 21 years of age. Corporations

**H-5472 RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSES** (Carter & Others) This act would designate alcohol server training programs which have existed for 5 years or more as acceptable for Rhode Island alcohol server programs. It would also require regulations to implement this act to become effective on January 1, 2006. Corporations

**S-363 SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY BUSINESS** (Revens) This act would allow retail establishments who sell consumer electronics to have Sundays and holiday hours of 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Labor

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

**H-5443 COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND LAND USE** (Shanley & Others) This act would amend the natural and cultural resources element of a comprehensive plan to include the impact on agricultural lands of the municipality or state. Environment & Natural Resources

**S-194 ZONING ORDINANCES: PARKING AREAS** (Gibbs & Others) This act would amend the definition of the term "parking areas" in Section 45-24-33 of the General Laws. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-291 FAMILY DWELLING UNIT** (Levesque & Perry) This act would amend the law on zoning ordinances to include a definition for "accessory family dwelling unit". Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-307 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would amend the natural and cultural resources element of a comprehensive plan to include the impact on agricultural lands of the municipality or state. Environment & Agriculture

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

**H-5240 FRAUDULENT FUNDRAISING** (Church & Others) This act would impose an additional one-year to any sentence imposed on an individual who falsely claims that a child is sick and engages in fraudulent fundraising. Judiciary

**H-5241 EMBEZZLEMENT AND FALSE PRETENSES** (Church & Others) This act would provide the same punishment that applies to fraud upon a victim who is 65 or older to an offender who falsely claims that a child has a potentially terminal illness. Judiciary

**H-5262 ANTI-CAMCORDER PIRACY ACT** (Lewiss & Others) This act would create the Anti-Camcorder Piracy Act. Finance

**H-5281 CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW** (Ginaitt & Others) This act would expand from statewide to national the criminal records check for persons seeking employment in a nursing facility. H.E.W.

**H-5318 VICIOUS DOGS** (Shanley & Kilmartin) This act would amend various sections relative to the regulation of vicious dogs. Corporations

**H-5325 UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** (Jacquard & Others) This act would extend forfeiture proceedings to cases involving counterfeit and/or designer drugs. Judiciary

**H-5347 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – ARREST** (O'Neill & Others) This act would add various procedures relative to the manner in which "photo lineups" and "live lineups" are conducted by municipal and state police forces. Judiciary

**H-5349 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – ARREST** (Anguilla & Others) This act would require the electronic recording of custodial interrogations in their entirety in cases where the potential sentence is one of life imprisonment. Judiciary

**H-5422 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS** (Lally & Others) This act would provide that, if a person is eligible to receive pay and benefits under Section 45-19-1, and subsequently retires, then that person shall continue to receive medical expense payments. Labor

**H-5434 MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES** (Lima & Others) This act would bar checkpoints as a means to detect motorists under the influence. Judiciary

**H-5439 MOTORCYCLES** (Menard & Others) This act would prohibit the tampering or altering of a motorcycle baffle or exhaust system. Judiciary

**H-5440 PURCHASE OF FIREARMS** (Ajello & Others) This act would prevent a person from purchasing more than one firearm in any month, would create an exemption for antique collectors, and would provide a definition for antique firearms. Judiciary

**H-5442 FREEDOM FROM SURVEILLANCE** (Anguilla & Others) This act would prohibit law enforcement agencies from violating civil liberties of individuals through surveillance or information gathering techniques. Judiciary

**H-5449 FIREFIGHTER PLATES** (Malik & Others) This act would increase the weight registration eligibility to qualify for plates designated "war veteran", "purple heart" and "ex-POW", and for special vehicle registration plates for active and retired firefighters. Veterans' Affairs

**H-5458 AMBER ALERT PROGRAM** (Ajello & Others) This act would allow putting missing adults with dementia who operate motor vehicles into the AMBER Alert system. H.E.W.

**H-5490 MUNICIPAL POLICE: INCENTIVE PAY** (Landroche & Williamson) This act would require that payments for education incentives be made directly to the individual police officer. Finance

**S-165 TELEVISION RECEIVERS PROHIBITED** (Polisena & Others) This act would prohibit displaying video cassette players within the field of view of the operator of a motor vehicle. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-185 ARRESTS** (Perry & Others) This act would add various procedures relative to the manner in which "photo lineups" and "live lineups" are conducted by municipal and state police forces. Judiciary

**S-187 ARRESTS** (Perry & Others) This act would require the electronic recording of custodial interrogations in their entirety in cases where the potential sentence is one of life imprisonment. Judiciary

**S-188 REFUSAL OF CHEMICAL TEST** (Algiere & Others) This act would make refusal to submit to a chemical test a misdemeanor if the driver of the motor vehicle is suspected of operating under the influence of liquor or illegal drugs. Judiciary

**S-191 AMBER ALERT PROGRAM** (Perry & Others) This act would allow putting missing adults with dementia who operate motor vehicles into the AMBER Alert system. Judiciary

**S-230 TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES** (Perry & Others) This act would also allow RIPTA buses to utilize traffic control signal prevention devices. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-271      FRAUDULENT FUNDRAISING** (Tassoni & Others) This act would impose an additional one-year to any sentence imposed on an individual who falsely claims that a child is sick and engages in fraudulent fundraising. Judiciary

**S-276      PENALTIES FOR LARCENY** (Tassoni & Others) This act would provide the same punishment that applies to fraud upon a victim who is 65 or older to an offender who falsely claims that a child has a potentially terminal illness. Judiciary

**S-285      NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES** (Levesque & Perry) This act would define a low speed vehicle, and set out the standards by which such vehicles may operate in the State of Rhode Island. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-293      MOTORCYCLES ON HIGHWAYS** (Levesque) This act would establish maximum noise limits for motorcycles. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-294      NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES** (Gibbs & Others) This act would define a neighborhood electric vehicle, and set out the standards by which such vehicles may operate in the State of Rhode Island. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-336      FIREARMS** (Damiani) This act would make it unlawful for any person to knowingly receive, transport or possess any firearm which has had the importer's or manufacturer's serial number tampered with. This act would also exempt antique and collectable weapons legally possessed by collectors and dealers of firearms. Judiciary

**S-347      INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS** (Blais & Breene) This act would provide law enforcement officials with the authority to obtain noncontent information from internet service providers pursuant to an administrative subpoena authorized by a chief of police, superintendent of state police, or the director of the statewide fugitive task force. Judiciary

## **RETIREMENT**

**H-5286      SERVICE RETIREMENT** (Faria) This act would reduce the number of years required for vesting in the state retirement system from 10 to 5 years. The act would require a member to be a contributing member of the system for at least 10 years in order for purchased service credit to be counted toward the member's total service credit. Finance

**H-5421      ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY** (Lally & SanBento) This act would make police officers and firefighters, who sustain a job-related disabling illness as determined by the employing city/town, eligible for the same accidental disability retirement allowance as if the police officer or firefighter applied for the allowance under the provisions of 45-21.2 of the General Laws. Labor

**H-5491 POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT** (Carter & Others) This act would permit members in the state retirement system who have retired from municipal employment to obtain post-retirement employment with the state without a suspension of retirement benefits. Finance

### **TOWN & CITY CLERKS**

**H-5345 HUNTING LICENSES** (Moran & Others) This act would exempt full-time law enforcement officers from obtaining a certificate of competency for an initial hunting license. Judiciary

**S-217 PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO MARRY** (Perry & Others) This act would broaden the definition of persons eligible to marry to include persons of the same gender. This act would also provide that members of the clergy would not be required to officiate at any particular marriage. Judiciary

**S-244 MECHANICS' LIENS** (McCaffrey) This act would require a mechanics' lien petitioner to file a petition to enforce the lien against the surety once a bond has been posted. Judiciary

**S-270 GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS** (Revens & Others) This act would eliminate the requirement that a guardian ad litem file a report when a parent petitions for guardianship of a minor unless specifically ordered by the probate court. Judiciary

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**H-5242 EMINENT DOMAIN** (Church & Others) This act would provide that transfer to a private entity of property condemned by eminent domain constitutes a public use only under certain circumstances. Judiciary

**H-5258 MILITARY FACILITY REUSE** (Fox & Others) This act would establish a military facility redevelopment zone tax credit to encourage the development of jobs on former military facility properties, and also in business parks which contain a majority of military or defense industry related businesses. Finance

**H-5267 ACQUISITION OF LAND** (Lima & Others) This act would limit the state and municipalities and their subdivisions from using condemnation proceedings to benefit a private party at the expense of another private party, and would limit private ownership in any such taking to 20% or less. Finance

**H-5298 MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES** (Corvese & Others) This act would require cities and towns to continue to pay employees who enter military service and continue to provide medical benefits. An offset would be allowed the city/town for military service pay received by the employee. Finance

**H-5314 WORKPLACE SAFETY ACT – SMOKING** (Laroche & Others) This act would exempt from the provisions of this chapter any bar where the service of food is merely incidental to the service of alcoholic beverages and said service of food constitutes less than 10% of its gross revenue. Labor

**H-5333 OPEN MEETINGS** (Kilmartin & Moran) This act would prohibit the use of telephone conferencing for meetings of members of a public body under this chapter. Judiciary

**H-5343 THREATS AND EXTORTION** (Flaherty & Fox) This act would prohibit the use of coercion, intimidation, threats, or attempts to do any of the same against a public official by use of any written or printed matter which appears to be a legal document issued from a court of this state, but which is not actually authorized or issued by either a court or a statute. Judiciary

**H-5356 ANIMALS** (Gallison & Others) This act would prohibit the operation of an animal circus in the state. H.E.W.

**H-5362 REGULATION OF BOATS** (Gallison & Others) This act would require that an American master mariner, LNG certified, be on board to insure that, when any tanker comes into port within the State of Rhode Island, it complies with all operational standards, best practices, and regulatory requirements for safety and pollution control. Corporations

**H-5367 URBAN RENAISSANCE** (Dennigan & Others) This act would create the Urban Renaissance Investment Trust Fund which purpose it would be to support, facilitate and encourage private-sector investments in urban communities. Finance

**H-5390 GAMBLING ACTIVITIES** (Menard & Others) This act would repeal the Rhode Island Gaming Control and Revenue Act. Finance

**H-5396 DOGS AND CATS** (Lewiss & Others) This act would establish a fund for the spaying and neutering of dogs and cats and would establish a committee to oversee the use of this fund. Finance

**H-5430 ANIMAL TRUSTS** (Lewiss & Others) This act would create a trust for the care of animals. H.E.W.

**H-5433 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS** (Lewiss & Others) This act would define and provide penalties for various acts of animal abuse, cruelty and neglect, and would create a cause of action for the intentional or negligent death of a pet. H.E.W.

**H-5444 PUBLIC BUILDINGS** (Shanley & Others) This act would allow the display of freshly cut trees or holiday greens in public buildings. Environment & Natural Resources

**H-5446 ORDINANCES** (Shanley & Others) This act would require town and city councils to conduct studies on the effects that proposed ordinances have on agricultural industry within their town. Environment & Natural Resources

**S-200 COYOTE MANAGEMENT** (Walaska & Others) This act would provide a means to control the population of coyotes in Rhode Island. Environment & Agriculture

**S-209 ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT SERVICES ACT** (Blais) This act would prohibit a government agency from engaging in any electronic commerce activity. Financial, Technology, Regulatory

**S-242 OPEN MEETINGS: LIBRARIES** (Perry & Others) This act would require libraries receiving state aid to comply with the provisions of the open meetings law. Judiciary

**S-255 PUBLIC BUILDINGS** (Breene & Others) This act would allow Christmas trees to be put in public buildings. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

**S-268 HEALTH INSURANCE** (Bates & Others) This act would repeal the provisions of the general laws that prohibit health insurance coverage for induced abortions for all contracts including those policies covering state and municipal employees. Health & Human Services

**S-274 OPEN MEETINGS** (Ciccone & Others) This act would prohibit the use of telephone conferencing for meetings of members of a public body under this chapter. Judiciary

**S-296 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS** (Levesque & Perry) This act would make it a misdemeanor to release a domesticated, diseased or non-indigenous animal in a park, circus, zoo or other such facility. Constitutional & Gaming Issues

**S-305 ORDINANCES** (Sosnowski & Others) This act would require town and city councils to conduct studies on the effects that proposed ordinances have on agricultural industry within their town. Environment & Agriculture

**S-313 PLAYGROUNDS** (Doyle & Others) This act would prohibit the use of tobacco products in any playground primarily used by children, and would impose fines of \$10.00 to \$100 per offense. Health & Human Services

**S-319 FAMILY HEALTH CARE** (Tassoni & Others) This act would require all Rhode Island employers of 24 or more workers to continue health care coverage for the families of those employees who are activated. Finance

**S-329 MUNICIPAL INSURANCE** (Paiva-Weed & Ruggerio) This act would amend the powers of municipalities to jointly establish an insurance corporation. The act also would add provisions governing the meetings of such insurance corporations. Financial, Technology, Regulatory

**S-331 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS** (Perry & Others) This act would make it unlawful for any state or local government agency to deny to any individual any right, benefit, or privilege provided by law because of an individual's refusal to disclose his/her social security number. Judiciary

**S-368 CODE OF ETHICS** (Montalbano & Others) This act would prohibit elected and appointed officials from accepting gifts of any value in excess of twenty-five dollars in a calendar year from interested persons, and would further define an "interested person". Government Oversight

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